

REMARKS**Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-29 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10, 12, 15-22, 24-29 are amended. There has been no Office Action mailed in connection with this Application. With the exception of claim 10, all of the amendments are for clarification purposes and to put the claims in a better format for issue. The amendment to claim 10 increases the percentage weight of the outer layers from 5 to 7 to 2 to 15. Support for this amendment can be found on page 9 of the specification. No new matter is added in the amendment to claim 10 or any of the other amendments amended above.

Examiner Interview Summary

On March 15, 2001, Examiner Tarazano and Applicant's representative conducted an interview. The Examiner stated that he has performed a prior art search and found that the seven layer films of the present invention are allowable. Additionally, during the interview Examiner Tarazano and Applicant's representative discussed each claim in detail and it was decided that Applicant's representative would submit this amendment to place the claims in better condition for issue. There is no rejection of record in the present application.

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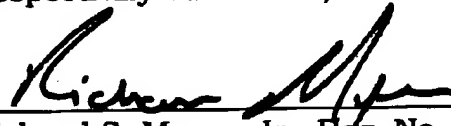
Applicant and Applicant's representative understand that the Examiner has examined this application with extra care and attention, while understanding the importance of this Application to Applicants. The time and consideration of the Examiner are greatly appreciated.

From the foregoing, further and favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is requested and such action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this Amendment or the application in general, or if any issues remain precluding the immediate allowance of this application, he is respectfully urged to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in connection with this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 23-0035.

Respectfully submitted,



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Version With Markings to Show Claim Changes Made

Claim 1 (Amended). A multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film containing seven polymeric layers, comprising:

(c) two outer layers, at least one of which having a cling performance of at least 100 grams/inch, said outer layer being selected from the group consisting of linear low density polyethylene, very low density polyethylene, and ultra low density polyethylene resins, said resins being homopolymers, copolymers, or terpolymers, of ethylene and alpha-olefins; and

(d) five inner layers, with each layer being selected from the group consisting of linear low density polyethylene, very low density polyethylene, ultra low density polyethylene, and metallocene-catalyzed linear low density polyethylene resins; [,] said resins are [being] homopolymers, copolymers, or terpolymers, of ethylene and C₃ to C₂₀ alpha-olefins.

Claim 2 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein said alpha-olefins are propylene, 1-butene, 1-pentene, 1-hexene, 4-methyl-1-pentene, or 1-octene [and range from C₃ to C₂₀].

Claim 4 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1 [2], wherein said alpha-olefins range from C₃ to C₈.

Claim 5 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein the said alpha-olefin content of said copolymers is [has an alpha-olefin weight percentage of] 4 to 15% by weight.

Claim 6 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, [wherein,] wherein the resin melt index for each outer layer is 0.2 to 10 dg/min.

Claim 7 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, [wherein,] wherein the resin melt index for each inner layer is 0.5 to 10 dg/min.

Claim 8 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein the resin density for each layer is about 0.860 to 0.940 g/cc.

Claim 10 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein each of the outer layers are [5 to 7] 2 to 15 weight percent of the total film weight.

Claim 12 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein the second outer layer is a slip layer [which further comprises one outer layer with substantially no inherent cling characteristics].

Claim 15 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein each of said outer layers have a thickness of 5 to 7% each of the total thickness of the film, and

each of said five inner layers have a thickness of 5 to 28% each of the total thickness of the film.

Claim 16 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein said seven polymeric layers are represented by the following formula: A/C/B/C/D/C/E, wherein the relative thickness [composition] of the layers is 10/20/10/20/10/20/10, % thickness [and/or parts by weight], respectively,

wherein layers [with] A and E each comprise [representing] a linear low density polyethylene hexene-copolymer, layers B and D each comprising [representing] a metallocene catalyzed linear low density polyethylene copolymer, and each layer C comprises [represents] a linear low density polyethylene hexene-copolymer.

Claim 17 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 16, wherein layers A and E have a melt index of 3.2 dg/min and a density of 0.917 g/cc; layers B and D have a melt index of 2.5 dg/min and a density of 0.917 g/cc; and each layer C has a melt index of 2.0 dg/min and a density of 0.917 g/cc.

Claim 18 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein said stretch wrap film has a MD tensile elongation (%) of 400 to 700, a TD tensile elongation (%) of 600 to 900, a MD Elmendorf tear (g/mil) of 200 to 400, a TD Elmendorf tear (g/mil) of 450 to 700, and a F-50 dart impact (g) of from 100 to 300.

Claim 19 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein said seven polymeric layers are represented by the following formula: A/C/B/C/D/C/E, wherein

layer A comprises [represents] :

a C₂/C₄/C₆ very low density polyethylene terpolymer with a melt index of 2.5 dg/min and a resin density of 0.910 g/cc, and layer A is [with a thickness of] 2% of the total thickness of said stretch wrap film, or

a C₂/C₆ linear low density polyethylene copolymer blended with a C₂/C₃ copolymer to form a polymer with a melt index of 2.5 dg/min and a resin

density of 0.915 , and layer A is [with a thickness of] 5% of the total thickness of the stretch wrap film;

layer B and D each comprise [represent]:

a C₂/C₆ metallocene catalyzed copolymer resin with a melt index of 1 or 2.5 dg/mm and a resin density of 0.910 g[;]/cc and a melt flow ratio of 16-20 g/10 min; wherein B [D] and D each have a thickness of 7 to 10% of the total thickness of the stretch wrap film;

layers C comprise [represents] :

a C₂/C₆ linear low density polyethylene copolymer with a melt index of 2 dg/mm and a resin density of 0.917 g/cc, or

a C₂/C₆ linear low density polyethylene copolymer with a melt index of 2 dg/mm and a resin density of 0.917 g/cc blended with a low density polyethylene homopolymer with a melt index of 0.2 to 2 dg/mm at a ratio of 95:5 to 75:25; wherein the C layers have a combined total [has a] thickness of 60 to 81% of the total thickness of the stretch wrap film; and

layer E comprises [represents]:

a C₂/C₄ linear low density polyethylene copolymer with a melt index of 2 dg/mm, or

a C₂/C₆ linear low density polyethylene copolymer with a melt index of 3 dg/mm and a resin density of 0.917 g/cc, wherein layer E has a thickness of 5 to 10% of the thickness of the stretch wrap film.

Claim 20 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein said seven polymeric layers are represented by the following formula: A/C/B/C/D/C/E, wherein

layer A comprises [represents]:

a C₂/C₄/C₆ very low density polyethylene terpolymer with a melt index of 2.5 dg/min and a resin density of 0.910 g/cc, and layer A is [with a thickness of] 2% of the total thickness of said stretch wrap film, or

a C₂/C₆ linear low density polyethylene copolymer blended with a C₂/C₃ copolymer to form a polymer with a melt index of 2.5 dg/min and a resin density of 0.915, and layer A is [with a thickness of] 5% of the total thickness of the stretch wrap film;

layers B and D each comprise [represent]:

a C₂/C₆ metallocene catalyzed copolymer resin with a melt index of 1 dg/mm and a resin density of [0917] 0.917 g/cc and a melt flow ratio of 16-20 g/10 min; wherein B and D have a thickness of 7 to 10% of the total thickness of the stretch wrap film;

layers C comprises [represents]:

a blend of a C₂/C₆ linear low density polyethylene copolymer with a melt index of 1 dg/mm and a low density polyethylene with a melt index of 2 dg/mm ^{weight} in a ratio of 95:5 to 75:25; wherein the C layers have a combined total [has a] thickness of 60 to 81% of the total thickness of the stretch wrap film; and

layer E comprises [represents]:

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a C₂/C₄ linear low density polyethylene copolymer with a melt index of 2 dg/mm, or

a C₂/C₆ linear low density polyethylene copolymer with a melt index of 3 dg/mm and a resin density of 0.917 g/cc, wherein layer E has a thickness of 5 to 10% of the thickness of the stretch wrap film.

Claim 21 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein said seven polymeric layers are represented by the following formula: A/C/B/C/D/C/E, wherein

layers A and E each comprise [represent]:

a C₂/C₄ linear low density polyethylene copolymer with a melt index of 2 dg/min and a resin density of 0.910 g/cc, and layers A and E each are [with a thickness of] 5 to 10% [each] of the total thickness of said stretch wrap film,

layers B and D each comprise [represent]:

a C₂/C₆ linear low density polyethylene copolymer resin with a melt index of 2 dg/mm and a resin density of 0.910 g/cc, and layers B and D each are [with a thickness of] 7 to 10% of the total thickness of the stretch wrap film; and

layer C comprises [represents]:

a blend of a C₂/C₄ linear low density polyethylene copolymer with a melt index of 2 dg/mm and a density of 0.910 g/cc, and the C layers have a combined total [with a] thickness of 60 to 81% each of the total thickness.

Claim 22 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein at least one of said five inner layers comprise metallocene catalyzed polyethylene with a melt index of 0.5 to 5 dg/min and a melt flow ratio of 30 to 50 g/10 min, wherein said at least one of said five inner layers is [comprise] 5 to 80 weight percent of the total film [composition].

Claim 24 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein the melt flow index is between 0.2 and 10 dg/min.

Claim 25 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein at least one layer comprises a blend [contains blends] of at least two of said resins.

Claim 26 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein said seven polymeric layers are represented by the following formula: A/C/B/C/D/C/E, wherein the relative ^{thick} composition of the layers is 7/24/7/24/7/24/7, [% thickness [and/or parts by weight], respectively, with layers A and E each comprising [representing] a linear low density polyethylene hexene-copolymer, layers B and D each comprising [representing] a metallocene catalyzed linear low density polyethylene copolymer, and each

layer C comprising [represents] a linear low density polyethylene hexene-copolymer.

Claim 27 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein the resin density for each layer is about 0.880 to 0.930 g/cc.

Claim 28 (Amended). The multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film of claim 1, wherein the resin density for each layer is about 0.900 to 0.925 g/cc.

Claim 29 (Amended). A multi-layer, thermoplastic stretch wrap film containing seven polymeric layers, comprising:

(a) two outer layers, at least one of which having a cling performance of at least 100 grams/inch, said outer layer being selected from the group consisting of linear low density polyethylene, very low density polyethylene, and ultra low density polyethylene resins, said resins being homopolymers, copolymers, or terpolymers, of ethylene and alpha-olefins; and

(b) five inner layers, with each layer being selected from the group consisting of linear low density polyethylene, very low density polyethylene, ultra low density polyethylene, and metallocene-catalyzed linear low density

polyethylene resins;[,] said resins being homopolymers, copolymers, or terpolymers, of ethylene and C₃ to C₂₀ alpha-olefins,

wherein at least one of said inner layers comprises a metallocene catalyzed linear low density polyethylene resin with a melt index of 0.5 to 3 dg/min and a melt index ratio of 16 to 80.

Certificate of Facsimile Transmission

I hereby certify that this Preliminary Amendment is being transmitted via facsimile to the following number: 203-305-5436 on this the 21st day of March 2001.

Richard S. Myers, Jr.

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Registration No. 42,022

March 21st, 2001
Date